

**SELECTBOARD AND BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING**  
**Due to COVID-19 Public Participation is by Zoom**  
**October 26, 2020**

Remote Zoom Meeting was opened at 6:30 PM in the Upstairs Meeting Room. Present were Selectpersons Rich Kuklewicz, Michael Nelson, and Chris Boutwell, Executive Assistant Wendy Bogusz, Town Clerk Deb Bourbeau, Council of Aging Director Roberta Potter, Finance Committee Chair Jen Audley, and Town Planner Walter Ramsey.

Selectboard Chair opens the meeting, including announcing that the meeting is being recorded and roll call taken.

Board of Health Vice-Chair opens the meeting, roll call taken.

**Approve Minutes of Selectboard and Board of Health Meeting of October 19, 2020**

Postponed

**Public Comment Period: Individuals will be limited to two (2) minutes each and the Board of Selectmen will strictly adhere to time allotted for public comment**

In light of the recent vandalism in Boston, Bourbeau states that drop boxes are required to be locked up at night when Town Hall closes. On Halloween, the box will be closed at 3:30 p.m.

**COVID-19 Updates and Action Items**

- **Council on Aging Director's Office Hours during early voting**  
Potter states that she has been working at home and will continue to do that until voting is through at the Senior Center.
- **Council on Aging Activities (not on agenda)**  
Potter shares information on the recent activities of the CoA (distribution of boxes of meat, senior farm shares, brown bag program, mobile food bank, chair yoga, knitting group, fuel assistance, and wood bank). A home-repair assistance program will be started in the near future.
- **Consider Turners Falls Fire District Request for Inter-Agency transfer of Municipal CARES Support (\$7,268)**  
*Boutwell makes the motion to authorize the Inter-Agency transfer of Municipal CARES Support (\$7,268) as requested by the Turners Falls Fire District. Seconded by Nelson, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Nelson - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye*
- **Review of any Updated State Guidance or Orders**  
Boutwell reports that some areas are getting worse with regard to COVID cases.

**Cemetery Commission**

- **Request for use of Public Property: Halloween Party at East Mineral Cemetery, October 30, 2020 from 4:00 - 7:00 PM**
  - Due to inclement weather, the date of the event is changed to Saturday from 2:00 - 5:00 PM
  - *Boutwell makes the motion to allow the Use of Public Property: Halloween Party at East Mineral Cemetery on Saturday, October 30, 2020 from 2:00 - 5:00 PM. Boutwell - Aye, Nelson - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye*
- **Request to transfer Highland Cemetery to the Town of Montague**
  - Judith Lorei states that the Cemetery Commission has been working to acquire a new Town cemetery since the 70's.
  - Barbara Peters from the Highland Cemetery Board states that they are no longer able to take care of Highland Cemetery and would like to know if the Town would like to take it

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over. They will gift the cemetery to the Town, along with a modest endowment. This will enable Montague residents to be buried in a more spacious cemetery.

- The Commission is requesting for FY2022 \$4,250 to cover some costs.
- Kuklewicz feels that we should not see this as a break-even or a revenue source and that the question of maintenance needs to be considered. He endorses moving forward.
- Audley invites the Cemetery Commission to present their proposal to the Finance Committee before budget proposals are due.

**Walter Ramsey, Town Planner**

- **Authorize and announce 2020 - 2021 Turners Falls Overnight Winter Parking**  
*Boutwell makes the motion to authorize the December 1, 2020 - April 1, 2021 Turners Falls Overnight Winter Parking as proposed. Seconded by Nelson, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Nelson - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye*
- **Authorize grant agreement and announce Mass DOT Complete Streets Tier 3 Construction Funding in the amount of \$399,686 for sidewalks on Montague Street, Turnpike Road and Keith Street**  
*Boutwell makes the motion to authorize the grant agreement for the Mass DOT Complete Streets Tier 3 Construction Funding in the amount of \$399,686 for sidewalks on Montague Street, Turnpike Road and Keith Street. Seconded by Nelson, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Nelson - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye*
- **Updates on Mass DOT Shared Spaces Grant for temporary pedestrian improvements on 3rd Street and Unity Park**  
The Town received a Mass DOT Shared Spaces Grant of \$32,000. The three projects that this grant is applied to have a cumulative effect of improving pedestrian safety, calming vehicular traffic, and brightening up downtown with some color.

**Chelsey Little, WPCF Superintendent**

- **Staff Organizational Update**  
Little reviews the Staff Organization Update Chart, which would allow for two Wastewater Technicians to be trained in the event that we lose our Lead Mechanic or Lead Operator, as well as facilitating having the Laborer/Operator move into a Wastewater Technician position.
- **DEP/EPA NON/AO Deficiency Updates and Measures to Correct**
  - Little reports that EPA is satisfied with the Clean Air Acts process hazard review, which was completed by Wright-Pierce Engineers.
  - We are halfway done with the Clean Water Acts Administrative Order. Reporting is required throughout the year so Little expects to be finished by the end of 2021.
  - We received two new Notices of Noncompliance on September 2 for violating our E. Coli counts and our chlorine. We are required to submit a corrective action plan. Little feels we should purchase a new press.

**Designate Gill-Montague Regional School District as Lead Applicant for the purposes of the Montague and Gill Remote Learning Student Services Grant Award, \$56,800**

*Boutwell makes the motion to designate Gill-Montague Regional School District as Lead Applicant for the purposes of the Montague and Gill Remote Learning Student Services Grant Award, \$56,800. Seconded by Nelson, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Nelson - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye*

*Boutwell makes the motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Nelson, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Nelson - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye*

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**Documents and Exhibits:**

- Turners Falls Fire District Request for Inter-Agency transfer of Municipal CARES Support (\$7,268)
- Use of public property: Halloween Party at East Mineral Cemetery, October 30, 2020 from 4:00 – 7:00 PM
- Request to transfer Highland Cemetery to the Town of Montague
- 2020 – 2021 Turners Falls Overnight Winter Parking Program
- MassDOT Complete Streets Tier 3 Construction Funding in the amount of \$399,686 for sidewalks on Montague Street, Turnpike Road and Keith Street
- MassDOT Shared Spaces Grant for temporary pedestrian improvements on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street and Unity Park
- Staff Organizational Update
- DEP/EPA NON/AO Deficiency Updates and Measures to Correct
- Designate Gill-Montague Regional School District as Lead Applicant for the purposes of the Montague and Gill Remote Learning Student Services Grant Award, \$56,800